

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of:

Liaw *et al.*

U.S. Appl. No. 09/630,454

Filed: August 2, 2000

For: **Novel Bacterial Strains, Methods
of Preparing the Same and Use
Thereof in Fermentation
Processes for L-Lysine
Production**

Confirmation No. 9071

Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: S. Devi

Atty. Docket: 1533.0730001/MAC/RGM
(formerly 1533.0730001/SRL/TBB)

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Reply To Restriction Requirement

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action, dated June 25, 2002, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the invention of Group I, represented by claims 6-16, drawn to an amino acid-producing bacterial strain, classified in class 424, subclass 93.4. In addition, Applicants provisionally elect the species *Corynebacterium* and lysine. Claims 7 and 8 read on the elected species. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed. This election is made with traverse.

Applicants submit that the application is fully in condition for examination. An examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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